

Appl. No. : 09/852,971
Filed : May 8, 2001

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend Claims 1-9, 11-13, and 15-20 as follows.

1. (Currently Amended) A method of providing a portable information agent comprising:

presenting a graphical representation ~~associated with said~~ of a portable information agent ~~as part of a~~ ~~in a~~ first composition accessed by an initial application, said portable information agent comprising a software object, having state, and having one or more possible external connections, said first composition providing a first execution context for said portable information agent;

allowing relocation of said ~~graphical object~~ portable information agent to a location outside of said initial application; and

thereafter moving said portable information agent to said outside location such that said portable information agent becomes part of a second composition, said second composition providing a second execution context for said portable information agent in which, preserving said state of said portable information agent is preserved.

2. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 1 wherein said portable information agent, once relocated, ~~will persists and maintains~~ said state after termination of said initial application.

3. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 1 wherein said initial application ~~comprises~~ is a web browser and said first composition is part of a web page.

4. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 1 wherein said initial application ~~is comprises~~ an email client and said first composition is part of an email message.

5. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 1 wherein said initial application ~~is comprises~~ a desktop provided by an operating system.

6. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 1 wherein said relocation ~~may be~~ is repeatable from a current location to any number of additional platforms.

7. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 5 wherein said desktop provided by an operating system ~~is comprises~~ an interface of a platform, said platform selected from the group consisting of: a ~~windows~~ Windows PC, a Macintosh PC, a unix-type operating system, a set-top box, a wireless logic appliance, an internet appliance, a personal digital assistant, or any another device connected to a network.

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8. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 1 wherein said new location is selected from the group consisting of: a desktop provideding by an operating system; a different application; and a different computer platform with a different operating system.

9. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 1 wherein said portable information agent includes one or more user interface components and wherein said interface components are preserved after a relocation.

10. (Original) The method according to claim 1 wherein said portable information agent includes one or more connections to one or more external entities and wherein said connections are preserved after a relocation.

11. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 1 wherein said allowing relocation comprises allowing a user to select and drag said graphical objectrepresentation.

12. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 1 wherein said allowing relocation comprises allowing a user to discontinuously select said graphical objectrepresentation and place said objectgraphical representation in a new location.

13. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 1 wherein said allowing relocation comprises allowing a said graphical objectrepresentation to move to a new location without an action by a user.

14. (Original) The method according to claim 10 wherein said one or more external entities are selected from the group consisting of: web servers, other applications, background processes, and other remote processes.

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15. (Currently Amended) A method of interacting with a portable information agent comprising:

providing a portable information agent object in-as part of a first composition accessed by an initial application, said portable information agent object comprising a software object, said first composition providing a first execution context for said portable information agent object;

allowing a user to select said portable information agent object and relocate said portable information agent object outside of said initial application;

upon detecting said relocating, determining if sufficient infrastructure logic exists to allow said portable information agent object to operate in a new location;

if said determining indicates that sufficient infrastructure does not exist, contacting an agent server to request necessary infrastructure logic;

downloading and installing necessary infrastructure logic; and

thereafter moving said graphic object portable information agent object to said new location such that said portable information agent object becomes part of a second composition that provides a second execution context for said portable information agent object.

16. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 15 wherein said initial application is-comprises a web browser and said first composition is-comprises a web page.

17. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 15 wherein said new location is selected from the group consisting of: a desktop provided ing by an operating system, a different application, and: a different computer platform with a different operating system.

18. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 15 wherein said portable information agent is associated with a graphic object constructed from presentation primitives that allow user interaction with said graphic object.

19. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 15 wherein said portable information agent graphic agent object includes logic allowing communication with a data server for tracking user interaction.

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20. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 19 wherein said graphic portable information agent object and said infrastructure allow communication with a data server for tracking user interaction after said portable information agent object ~~is has been~~ moved to a new location-~~desktop~~.